



# SDHEG NEWSLETTER

South Dakota Healthcare Executive Group

Summer 2023

## MESSAGE FROM SDHEG PRESIDENT

Ashli Danilko, MHA, FACHE | PRESIDENT

SDAHO Annual Convention is being held September 20-22, 2023, in Sioux Falls at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Registration is now open for [SDAHO's Annual Convention!](#)

As an Affiliate Member of SDAHO, all members of SDHEG receive the SDAHO member registration rate of \$250. SDAHO is also introducing a new, fun incentive that we encourage you all to participate in, Freebie Fridays! For more information on how to be awarded for registering for Convention, click [here](#).

SDHEG is working with SDAHO to offer face to face education credit, watch more information coming soon. Also, be sure to read the Regent message below about our State Chapter giving out our two annual awards for early careerist and senior level executive.

Big thanks to our education committee for working with SDAHO to provide face-to-face education at the Rural Health Leaders Conference in Fort Pierre, June 27-28. The panel topic was Developing a Plan of Action to Sustain Healthcare Organizations.

Please let me know how we can better serve you as an ACHE and SDHEG member. I can be reached via email at [Ashli.Danilko@avera.org](mailto:Ashli.Danilko@avera.org) or 605-589-2152.

Regards,  
Ashli Danilko, MHA, FACHE



## SDHEG BOARD

2022 – 2023

- Ashli Danilko, President  
St. Michael's Avera, Tyndall
- Tammy Miller, President Elect  
Madison Regional Health System,  
Madison
- Teri Bergeleen, Secretary/Treasurer  
Avera Health, Sioux Falls
- Mark Longacre, Regent  
Monument Health, Rapid City
- Jessica Aguilar, Education Chair  
Sanford Health, Sioux Falls
- Michael Tilles, Membership Chair  
Monument Health, Rapid City
- Jason Merkley, Board Member  
Brookings Health System, Brookings
- Dr. Carole South-Winter, Board Member  
University of South Dakota, Vermillion
- Eric Hilmoe, Board Member  
Sanford Health Network,  
Sioux Falls
- Michael Merry, Student Board Member  
University of South Dakota,  
Vermillion

## SDHEG Chapter Stats

- 147** ACHE State Chapter Members
- 121** Members active in the previous year
- 43** FACHes in State Chapter
- 29.3%** Percent Fellows in chapter
- 50** Senior-level executives in SDHEG
- 14** Active student members
- 33** Members eligible to advance as Fellow
- 82.5%** Member retention rate
- 2** Chapter Events
- 3** Programming hours
- 92** Attendee hours

## Message from your ACHE Regent Summer Message

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New members are the life blood of our organization, and we would like to welcome the following 5 to ACHE and the South Dakota Chapter of Healthcare Executives (SDHEG). To date we have 9 new members that have joined the SD Chapter in 2023. In addition, we have had 3 members advance their leadership training and obtained the status as Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. When you see any of these members, please congratulate them.

### **New Members**

Kila LeGrand, Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center  
Amanda Saeger, Dakota Vascular  
Jennifer Horton, Level Ten Healthcare  
Hilary Rockwell, Avera Queen of Peace  
Willis Bultje, LFACHE

### **New Fellows**

Thomas Worsley, FACHE  
Sarah Hermsen, FACHE  
Luis Garcia, FACHE

As a reminder the SDAHO Conference will be held September 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> in Sioux Falls. At this conference SDHEG will again present Regent Awards for outstanding healthcare leadership. Criteria for eligibility can be found at the following site (<https://www.ache.org/membership/elected-leaders-area/forms/regent-award-criteria>). Last year's recipients were Terry Bergeleen, Early Careerist Healthcare Executive, and Kyle Richards, Senior-Level Healthcare Executive. I encourage you to nominate one of your peers for this award as it is one of the highest accolades the chapter can bestow on a member. There is no nomination form needed for this so just reach out to any board member and make your recommendation. You can reach me at [mlongacre@monument.health](mailto:mlongacre@monument.health).

Every year in the fall I am fortunate to make a visit to our colleges that are offering healthcare leadership degrees. With schools getting underway soon, I'm looking forward to updating the students on ACHE, and the value that can be gained by being a student member. Until then, I encourage students to visit the following site to stay up to date (<https://www.ache.org/membership/student-resources>).

I look forward to seeing many of you at SDAHO in September.



**Mark Longacre, FACHE**  
**Monument Health**  
**Regent for South Dakota**

# SDHEG STUDENT MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



## **Michael Merry**

**University of South Dakota Student**

**Beacom School of Business | Health Services Administration**

**Health Executives Advancing Leadership (HEAL) President**

**Hometown: Dell Rapids, SD**

### **Why are you pursuing a degree in health care administration?**

I am pursuing a degree in health services administration because the field of healthcare has always piqued my interest, yet so has business. It is truly the best of both worlds for me, and I wouldn't want to be doing anything else!

### **Are you currently working? If so, where?**

I am working, but not in the field of healthcare yet. This upcoming semester, I will be serving as a peer advisor for the Beacom School of Business, working occasionally at Target in Sioux Falls, as well as delivering Door Dash orders in Vermillion.

### **What have you gained most from your ACHE student membership and participation thus far?**

I have gained valuable networking opportunities with professionals in the healthcare administration field.

### **Are you looking for an internship experience? If yes, what things are you looking to learn and get out of an internship?**

Yes, I am looking for an internship experience for the summer of 2024. Through an internship, I hope to experience the day-to-day life working in healthcare administration in the professional world. I am also hoping to use an internship to apply what I have learned in classrooms at the Beacom School of Business in a professional setting and expand on that knowledge.

## **ACHE National News**

### **FACHE Education Requirements are Changing**

FACHE is the most recognized credential of a leader's competency and commitment to healthcare management excellence. Acting on Member feedback, ACHE's Board of Governors approved revised FACHE credentialing criteria, **effective Jan. 1, 2024**. The revised criteria offer a flexible format while still supporting rigorous learning and skill-building.

<b>Current Requirement, through Dec. 31, 2023</b>	<b>NEW Requirement Beginning Jan. 1, 2024</b>
<b>Complete a minimum of 36 continuing education hours over 3 years, including:</b>	<b>Complete a minimum of 36 continuing education hours over 3 years, including:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A minimum of 12</b> ACHE Face-to-Face hours</li><li>• <b>Up to 24</b> may be Qualified Education hours</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A minimum of 12</b> ACHE In-Person Education hours</li><li>• <b>12</b> ACHE Virtual Interactive Education hours</li><li>• <b>Up to 12</b> may be Qualifying Education hours</li></ul>

### **Connect With Fellow Members**

We are pleased to offer members [three free online communities](#) for physician executives, Asian healthcare leaders, and LGBTQ+ healthcare leaders. The communities' platform makes it easier than ever for peers to connect in real time, tackle issues together, and ask important career-related questions. Members can participate in discussion threads, share resources and best practices, and crowdsource innovative ideas and solutions.

If you have any questions, please contact ACHE's Customer Service Center at [contact@ache.org](mailto:contact@ache.org) or call (312) 424-9400, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central time.

### **You Asked, We Answered—3 Easy Payments**

We are excited to announce another convenient way for members to keep up with their dues payments. In addition to auto-renewal of full dues, we are now offering the opportunity to pay ACHE dues in three installments.

After you make your first installment, ACHE will email you in advance of the second and third payments before credit/debit cards are charged. Additionally, once you sign up for the installment payment plan, your membership will automatically renew each year under the plan. ACHE will continue to keep you informed before processing future payments.

If you have any questions about the installment payment plan, contact ACHE's Customer Service Center at [contact@ache.org](mailto:contact@ache.org) or call (312) 424-9400, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central time.

### **FACHE® Recertification**

The mandatory [recertification](#) deadline for the 2023 class is Dec. 31, 2023.

Fellows can check on their progress by logging into My ACHE and viewing the FACHE Recertification Progress Tool. There is no need to wait until Dec. 31 to recertify. Fellows should recertify early, pending all requirements have been met, so that they may start earning continuing education and volunteer activities toward their next recertification cycle.

Fellows over the age of 60 that plan to retire within the next five years may be eligible for a one-time only five-year recertification waiver. Fellows in good standing who are retired from healthcare management may transfer to Retired or Life Fellow Status.